

DPS Fire Marshal Above Ground Storage Tank project
Implementation Paper
Presented 5/10/06

Project Sponsor: Jeff Miller

Project Points-of-Contact:

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Goal:

The Above Ground Storage Tank project will take an existing application that has been created for the Department of Inspections and Appeals Food Safety Bureau and modify it to provide the following functionality:

- A registration database that will allow the Fire Marshal's office to track all tanks/compartments by compartment number, facility location, and facility owner.
- An automated renewal process to aid the gathering of annual license fees. The process will allow facility owners to renew online through a web interface. The Fire Marshals will use the application to create mailing labels and license due lists to further automate their internal processes.
- The Fire Marshal's office will be able to perform on site inspections using a lap top or PDA to allow the ability to track violations, visits, and add inspection photos.
- The application will allow for the electronic tracking of review plans. Review plans consist of facility maps and facility safety plans including disaster recovery plans.
- In addition to the desktop application, internet functionality will be created to provide the following capabilities:
- Facilities will be able to use the website to pay all renewal and/or penalty fees through a proven e-payment engine.
- Fuel delivery companies will be able to verify that tanks have been properly inspected and licensed prior to delivery of material.
- Facilities/tank owners will be allowed to submit review plans through the website, speeding the process of delivering plans to the Fire Marshal's office.
- The public will be able to search for facilities to verify that all inspections are current.
- The public will be able to search for facilities to view violations and incidents uncovered during inspections.
- The public will be able to submit complaints against facilities online.
- The current data used by the Fire Marshal's office will be migrated into this new application to insure consistency and continuity in day to day activities.

Project Purpose:

The project will provide the Fire Marshal's office with a streamlined process for tracking and renewing licensing for above ground storage tanks and compartments. The application will increase efficiency and shorten the existing process through a more comprehensive tracking of tank ownership and fees owed by facilities.

The web application will provide to the public an easy way to locate and view the status of nearby facilities. Additionally, fuel delivery companies will now be able to easily check the license status of a tank PRIOR to delivery, increasing the safety of the public and encouraging compliance with current laws and procedures.

Background:

The Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office is required to maintain an accurate inventory of aboveground (AST) petroleum storage tanks in the State of Iowa. This office keeps record of registered tanks above 1,100 gallons throughout the State. The Fire Marshal's Office currently has a system that has limited capabilities and can not collect all the information needed to track and evaluate the safety of AST's in Iowa. The current system has become unreliable, resulting in the loss of data that could prove to be crucial if an incident occurred regarding that tank. The current system is not able to identify paid/unpaid licenses, which Iowa Code requires be renewed annually, resulting in lost revenue for the Fire Marshal's Office.

There is a critical need to develop a new system to track registrations, technical data, and other information necessary to evaluate the operation and safety of AST petroleum tank sites in Iowa. This will also reduce the number of clerical tasks required of the inspectors, freeing them to perform more inspections thereby improving the safety and well-being of the citizens.

Request:

The request is for \$77,000 to cover the Implementation Phase as well as first year hosting charges broken out as follows:

Implementation/Testing –	\$65,000
First Year Hosting -	\$12,000

Cost Avoidance:

The cost of implementing such a robust system is greatly reduced by using a proven existing software program rather than “starting from a blank slate” or buying a new “off of the shelf” product.

Interested Parties:

Citizens of the State of Iowa
Emergency Responders/County Emergency Management
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Fire Marshal's Office
Department of Homeland Security
Iowa Petroleum Marketers Association
Williams Pipeline Company
Storage tank facility owners

Some of the Recipients of this Service:

See above Interested Parties.